

1 1. A flat panel display comprising:
2 a tiled array of display elements wherein each
3 display element has a front surface that emits light and a
4 back surface that does not substantially emit light;
5 a seam between adjacent display elements; and
6 a strap attached to said back surfaces over the
7 seams between the display elements.

1 2. The display of claim 1 including a plurality of
2 straps over a plurality of seams.

1 3. The display of claim 2 wherein the plurality of
2 straps are attached to the back surfaces so that the straps
3 are perpendicular to each other.

1 4. The display of claim 3 wherein the perpendicular
2 straps are attached to each other.

1 5. The display of claim 4 wherein the perpendicular
2 straps are attached to the frame.

1 6. The display of claim 1 including a frame.

1 7. The display of claim 2 including an optical
2 integrator attached to the front surfaces of the display
3 elements.

1 8. The display of claim 7 wherein the plurality of
2 straps redistribute stress from the optical integrator to
3 the straps.

1 9. The display of claim 8 wherein the plurality of
2 straps redistribute bending stress as tension in the
3 straps.

1 10. The display of claim 8 wherein the plurality of
2 straps redistribute stress as compression in the straps.

1 11. A method comprising:
2 arranging an array of display elements to form a
3 flat-panel display, the display elements each having a
4 front surface that emits light and a back surface that does
5 not substantially emit light; and
6 securing a strap across seams between the
7 adjacent display elements.

1 12. The method of claim 11 including securing a
2 plurality of straps across seams so that said straps are
3 perpendicular to each other.

1 13. The method of claim 11 including securing an
2 optical integrator to the front surface of the display
3 elements.

1 14. The method of claim 13 including redistributing a
2 stress placed on the optical integrator to the strap.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein redistributing the
2 stress includes redistributing the stress as tension in the
3 strap.

1 16. The method of claim 14 wherein redistributing the
2 stress includes redistributing the stress as compression in
3 the strap.

1 17. A method comprising:
2 configuring a flat-panel display from an array of
3 display elements, each of the display elements having a
4 front surface that emits light and a back surface that does
5 not substantially emit light;
6 fastening straps across seams between back
7 surfaces of the adjacent display elements; and
8 redistributing a stress placed on a transparent
9 front surface of a flat-panel display to said straps.

1 18. The method of claim 17 wherein redistributing a
2 stress includes redistributing a bending stress on said
3 front surface as compression in the straps.

1 19. The method of claim 17 wherein redistributing a
2 stress includes redistributing a bending stress as tension
3 in the straps.

1 20. The method of claim 17 including adhesively
2 securing said straps to said display in a grid pattern.